

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for transmitting arbitrary font data to an output device, said method comprising:

determining whether rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is resident on the output device; and

if the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is not resident on the output device, transmitting to the output device rendering information for the font data to be transmitted,

wherein the font data to be transmitted comprises a character identifier associated with a character image, the character identifier comprising a multiple byte identifier including at least two data bytes.

2. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the output device comprises a printer.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted comprises glyph information and bitmap data associated with an image.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein:

the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted further comprises position data specifying a location for rendering the image.

5. (canceled).

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the character image comprises an ideographic character.

8. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising computer program code for a method for transmitting arbitrary font data to an output device, said method comprising:

determining whether rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is resident on the output device; and

if the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is not resident on the output device, transmitting to the output device rendering information for the font data to be transmitted,

wherein the font data to be transmitted comprises a character identifier associated with a character image, the character identifier comprising a multiple byte identifier including at least two data bytes.

9. (original) The computer program product of Claim 8, wherein:
the output device comprises a printer.

10. (original) The computer program product of Claim 8, wherein:
the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted comprises glyph information and bitmap data associated with an image.

11. (original) The computer program product of Claim 10, wherein said method further comprises:
the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted further comprises position data specifying a location for rendering the image.

12. (canceled).

13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended) The computer program product of Claim ~~8~~ 12, wherein:
the character image comprises an ideographic character.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a processor; and
a memory coupled to said processor, and storing computer code implementing a method of transmitting arbitrary font data to an output device wherein upon execution of said method on said processor, said method comprises:

determining whether rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is resident on the output device; and

if the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is not resident on the output device, transmitting to the output device rendering information for the font data to be transmitted, wherein the rendering information comprises glyph information and bitmap data associated with an image, and

wherein the font data to be transmitted comprises a character identifier associated with a character image, the character identifier comprising a multiple byte identifier including at least two data bytes.

16. (original) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:
the rendering information further comprises position data specifying a location for rendering an image.

17. (original) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:
the output device comprises a printer.

18. (canceled).

19. (canceled).

20. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15 ~~18~~, wherein:
the character image comprises an ideographic character.